

REMARKS

Previously, claims 1, 12 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cloutier et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,847,771); claims 2-3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cloutier et al. in view of Lucas et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,081,450); claims 4-7, 13-16 and 22-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cloutier et al. in view of Keene et al. (U.S. Patent


No. 5,510,843); claims 8-10 and 17-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cloutier et al. in view of Ohki (U.S. Patent No. 5,838,985); claims 11 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cloutier et al. in view of Ohki and further in view of Tam et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,754,186). Since claims 1 - 23 have been cancelled, the Examiner's 103(a) rejections for the cited references are rendered moot.

In addition, the new claims 24 - 44 recite limitations that are neither anticipated nor suggested by any of the cited references taken singly or in any combination. For example, claim 24 discloses a user configurable universal media processing system arranged to receive and process any of a number of type of digital data. More particularly, the universal media processing system includes a number of distributed configurable media processing elements (MPE) suitably arranged to provide distributed processing of said digital data each being coupled to the memory unit thereby enabling selected portions of the digital data to be shared amongst the media processing elements. None of the cited references is user configurable such that any of a number of digital data can be processed accordingly. In addition, the processing elements of the inventive universal media processor are arranged in such a way as to distribute the required processing over a number of media processing elements providing a more efficient and faster system. The reconfigurable nature of the universal media processing system provides the capability of accessing and processing compressed digital data stored on any of a number of storage media such as CDs, DVDs, etc.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are allowable. Should the Examiner believe that a further telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the undersigned can be reached at the telephone number set out below.

Respectfully submitted,
BEYER WEAVER & THOMAS, LLP


Michael J. Ferrazano
Reg. No. 44,105

P.O. Box 778
Berkeley, CA 94704-0778
(650) 961-8300